(b) Rs. 22,000 per month excluding taxes.

(c) The Post Office had to be shifted from the departmental building to enable its demolition and reconstruction. Construction of the new departmental building for Rajkot Head Post Office is in progress.

Converting Madras Telephone Exchange to Electronic System

536. SHRI R. MOHANARANGAM: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal under Government's consideration to modernise/instal the telephone exchange equipment in Madras city and suburban areas; and

(b) by when the telephone exchange at Madras city will be converted into a fully electronic system?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI RAM NIWAS MIRDHA): (a) Yes Sir, proposals have been initiated.

(b) The telephone exchanges in Madras city will be converted into fully electronic system progressively as and when the existing exchanges complete their useful life of 25 years, subject to availability of resources.

Waiting List of Telephones in Madras

537. SHRI R. MOHANARANGAM: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have taken any concrete steps to reduce the number of waiting list for telephone connections in Madras City and its suburban areas; and

(b) if so, what are the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI RAM NIWAS MIRDHA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The details of new exchanges/expansions planned for the next 5 years to clear the present waiting list are as follows:

S. No.	Name of Exchange	Expansions planned
1.	Harbour	5000 lines
2.	Adyar	2000 ,,
3.	Kellys	3000 ,,
4.	Flower Bazar Main	10,000 ,,
5.	Anabattur	500 ,,
6.	Avadi	500 ,,
7.	Chromepet	1500 ,,
8.	Mambalam	5000 ,,
9.	Kadambakkam	2000 ,,
10.	Nungambakkam Main	10000 ,,
11.	St. Thomas Mount	1200 ,,
	TOTAL :	40700

Shortage of Funds

538. SHRI MUKHTIAR SINGH MALIK: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the news item which appeared in the 'Hindustan Times' dated the 21st June, 1985 captional "Oil Ministry Starved of Funds";

(b) if so, what is the extent of inadequacy of funds and what are the reasons therefor;

(c) how far it will affect the exploration and production of Petroleum in the country; and

(d) whether any arrangements to provide adequate funds are being made and if so, the details thereof?